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Need For Speed's Scott Waugh Returns to Utah to Shoot New Action Feature
Total of three new productions set to spend over \$12 million in Utah

SALT LAKE CITY – The Utah Film Commission today announced that the Governor's Office of Economic Development board has approved three new projects for state film incentives, estimated to spend more than \$12 million collectively on the ground.

March 2016 will see *Need For Speed* Director Scott Waugh return to Utah to shoot feature film *Six Below*, a production that has been approved for a state incentive. Line Produced by Grant Gilmore, who is familiar with Utah from his work on *The Sandlot*, *Six Below* is the true story of a snowstorm that strands former professional hockey player Eric Lemarque on a mountain top for eight days, where he is forced to take drastic measures and come to terms with his addiction in order to survive. The production will showcase some of Utah's iconic winter landscapes and spend an estimated \$2 million in the state.

Director Scott Waugh said: "*I had such a great experience in Utah shooting Need For Speed and I really wanted to return to film in the state again. Two of the great things about Utah are its vast topography and reliable crew base.*"

Virginia Pearce, Utah Film Commission Director, commented: "Home to the 'Greatest Snow on Earth' and the 'Mighty Five' national parks, it's no surprise that Utah is becoming recognized as a destination for filming adventure genre productions. From *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid* (1969) and *Thelma & Louise* (1991), to *Pirates of the Caribbean* (2007), *127 Hours* (2010) and *Need For Speed* (2014), we are utilizing our diverse locations and carving out a niche for Utah as 'the adventure state'."

Feature film *Wind River* has also been approved to receive an incentive and is due to begin shooting later this month. Directed by Taylor Sheridan, writer of the Academy Award-nominated *Sicario*, and starring Jeremy Renner and Elizabeth Olsen, *Wind River* tells the story of a hunter forced to



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confront his past when he joins a rookie FBI agent on a quest to solve a murder. The production plans to hire over 100 local cast and crew and spend an estimated \$8.5 million in Utah.

"Aside from the breathtaking scenery, there were very practical decisions that made Utah so attractive: the impressive Park City Studios and their proximity to mountain locations, a large pool of talented crew, and an extremely helpful and efficient film commission. This unique combination of factors is why we chose Utah over locations such as New Mexico and Calgary, Canada", said Taylor Sheridan, *Wind River* Director.

Fischer Productions will begin shooting the next season of its reality automotive series, *Kindig Customs* in Utah this year. The ten episodes will follow the creative genius of Utah business owner David Kindig and his team as they turn out one-of-a-kind vehicles for demanding clientele in his automotive shop. Completely shot and edited in Utah, the series plans to spend nearly \$2 million in state.

"We are always happy to welcome talent back to Utah, and our team, along with local crew, remains committed to ensuring that filmmakers have all the resources they need for projects to run as seamlessly as possible", said Virginia Pearce.

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About the Utah Film Commission

As a part of the Governor's Office of Economic Development, the Utah Film Commission markets the entire state as a destination for film, television and commercial production by promoting the use of professional local crew & talent, support services, Utah locations and the Motion Picture Incentive Program. The office also serves as liaison to the film industry, facilitating production needs across the state.

Over 900 films have been produced in Utah, including *127 Hours*, *Butch Cassidy & The Sundance Kid*, *Forrest Gump*, *Lone Ranger*, *High School Musical* and the television series *Touched by an Angel*.

The Utah Film Commission partners with seven regional offices: Kane County, Utah Valley, Washington County, Ogden, Park City, Heber Valley and Moab.

For more information, visit www.film.utah.gov.